

Society for International Folk Dancing

# SIFD NEWS



## MAY 2019

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The packaging and posting is done by Dalila Heath.

The cover picture this month of the Mongolian State Folk Ensemble was taken by Judith Payling in 1986 at Billingham; on the back page my Bognor Group at a local Mayfest, 2013.

Ever since I met Rami Schaafi and invited him to the Eastbourne festival Mongolian throat singing (Khoumi) has fascinated me. I have recently discovered a heavy metal folk rock band called "The Hu" and just cannot stop listening to their music. One of the traditional instruments they play is the Morin Khuur, (horse-head fiddle - see page12). The Mongolian word 'hu' is the root for 'hun' (person), 'huu' (child) and 'humuun' (human).

Here is a link to their youtube site:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jM8dCGIm6yc>

(Apologies to those who can't abide rock - but this is sort of folk)

Another link for you: Folk Dancer Online (FDO - magazine of the Ontario Folk Dance Association), has a comprehensive index of all the issues from 1969 to 2019 which can be viewed on their website: <http://ofda.ca/wp/magazine/>

**Ed.**



## **Victoria Embankment Gardens**

This year Balaton's Hungarian performance at the Victoria Embankment gardens will be 3-5pm on Sunday 2nd June with the Southend Hungarian folk choir.

Doina's Eastern European performance will be 3-5pm, Sunday 9th June with the children's Hungarian folkdance group Csillagszemek.

**Leslie Haddon**



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- S.I **Jun. 2: VICTORIA EMBANKMENT - BALATON** see page 3
- S.I **Jun. 8: BALKANPLUS** - MC - Emily Nisbet held in Trefusis, Cecil Sharp House, Camden NW1 7AY, starting at 7.00pm. Admission £6.
- S.I **Jun. 9: VICTORIA EMBANKMENT - DOINA** see page 3
- Jul. 2 - 7: LLANGOLLEN EISTEDDFOD** see page 11
- S.I **Jul. 13: BALKANPLUS** - will be a request evening, perhaps you'd like a favourite dance from a recent workshop or a 'golden oldie', all requests to Ron Wilks please, to be held in Trefusis, Cecil Sharp House, Camden NW1 7AY, starting at 7.00pm. Admission £6.
- Aug.10 - 18: BILLINGHAM INT. FESTIVAL** see page 11
- Aug. 23 - 26: SOUTH DOWNS MINI DANCE FESTIVAL**, Plumpton Agricultural College, near Lewes, East Sussex. Dances in lines & circles, European Folk & Circle Dance, shared teaching. Also singing and Tai Chi. £195 full board, single rooms. Contact Sue Kewley [suekewley@outlook.com](mailto:suekewley@outlook.com) or 01903 744929
- Sep. 14 - 15: GREEK FOLK DANCE WORKSHOPS** 10:30-4:30. Kyriakos Moisisdis at Headington Parish Hall, Dunston Road, Oxford, OX3 9BY. £70. cheque for £70 payable to Mary Perryman: 26 Hamilton Road, Oxford, OX2 7PZ. Tel: 01865 552688 [mary.perryman4@gmail.com](mailto:mary.perryman4@gmail.com) Share veg. lunch, free drinks, Meal at Greek restaurant on Sat. social dancing. Possible accommodation with local dancers.
- S.I **Sep. 28: S.I.F.D. A.G.M.** 4p.m. Memorial Hall Bramcote NG9 3HD Nottinghamshire

S.I **Sep. 28 - 29: NUTBROOK I.F.D.G. 40<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY** Sat. a.m. St Michael's Church Hall Bramcote NG9 3HD 10.30-12.30 workshops £7. Sat p.m. 1.45p.m.– 4p.m. workshop £7. Sat 4p.m. Anniversary cake followed by S.I.F.D. A.G.M. £0. Sat. 6.00 Anniversary Buffet pre-booked £7.50. Sat 7p.m. -9.30 p.m. Dance Heart of England band £7. All day ticket with food £25 Sun all day 11a.m.–4p.m. Further info & application forms [www.nutbrookfolkdance.co.uk](http://www.nutbrookfolkdance.co.uk) or 0115 9171831 Gill Morral or [gill.morral@ntlworld.com](mailto:gill.morral@ntlworld.com)

**Oct 25-28: 3 NIGHT INT. FOLK DANCING & WALKING** led by Phil & Brenda Steventon Dancing in the morning and evening, 4-5 mile afternoon walks led by an HF walking leader. at HF Holidays, Longmynd House, Church Stretton, Shropshire SY6 6AG For details ring HF on 0345 470 8558 or Phil & Brenda on 020 8397 9649

S.I **Oct. 26-27: DANCE AROUND THE WORLD** Cecil Sharp House



*Events covered by SIFD insurance are marked S.I. Please remember that the onus is on **you** to mark each event when sending in the notice if your event is covered by our insurance.*

*All material for the June issue of the SIFD NEWS must be received by the Editor **in writing** by 18th May.*



## **Balkanplus**

The May Balkanplus will be held on the 11th May in Trefusis, Cecil Sharp House, Camden NW1 7AY, starting at 7.00pm and ends 10.00pm. MCs will be Ursula Brown and Dalila Heath. Admission £6.

**Maureen Felton**

## John Watling

My husband John Watling passed away on 2nd February. We met in 1987 on Joy and Steve's HF holiday and joined them every year, continuing when Phil and Brenda took over. We made so many good friends with whom we are still in touch and looked forward to meeting up every year. After 2012 we were no longer able to attend due to John's increasing dementia. I was so pleased that Phil and Brenda were able to come to the funeral. Joy and Steve always said that HF really did mean "husbands found". I hope to get back to dancing in time.

Pat Watling



## Old SIFD photos



sent by **Dorothy Sloan**



## **Committee Meeting Report**

This is a report on the meeting held in March 2019. Routine reports were given, and amongst these matters were:

### **Finance**

The Treasurer has presented to the Committee the 2018 Accounts, in draft form. They will be sent for independent examination in the near future. The Gift Aid claim based on 2018 subscription receipts has been submitted to HMRC. The Society has received a generous donation in memory of former member Ken Poyton who died recently.

### **The new website and Publicity**

The Committee have now been shown the initial version new SIFD website. Various aspects are under discussion but it is anticipated that the new website will go live soon.

It is hoped that there will shortly be further progress on the proposed new SIFD banner.

### **Teaching Group/Teacher Assessment**

Following the Committee's item in the February News, which included the proposed course of action if sufficient help is volunteered, it is hoped that the project will be advanced without delay.

### **Conversion of SIFD to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.**

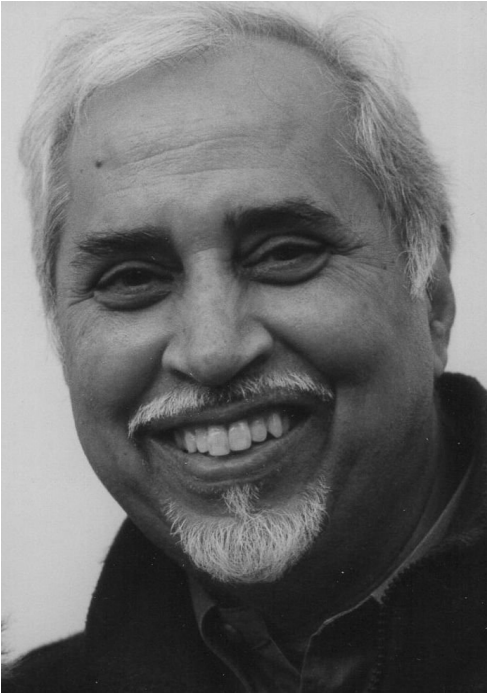
The first step is to draft a revised Constitution, and this is in hand.

### **The 2019 AGM**

This will be held on Saturday September 28th, in Bramcote, Nottingham, hosted by Nutbrook International Folk Dance Group.



## Remembering Naren



On Saturday 25th May we will be celebrating the life of Narendra Kotiyan who died in January.

The event will be held from 7pm to 10.30pm at the Serbian Community Centre, 89-91 Lancaster Road, Notting Hill, London W11 1QQ - a short distance from Ladbroke Grove underground station. Guests will include Dunav Balkan Group and the London Bulgarian Choir. The evening will be predominantly music and dance but, among other contributions,

Caroline Thomas will tell the story of Naren's extraordinary life. The Society's own John Stewart has kindly offered to manage the sound. Buffet food will be provided and admission will be free of charge - although voluntary cash contributions would be gratefully received.

There is no need to book but I would appreciate an email or phone call from those intending to come to help us estimate the catering requirements. Of course, we would be happy to hear from any of Naren's friends who would like to contribute to the evening in words or music.

We hope to make this a fitting farewell to a unique figure in the world of music and dance.

**Brian Dowsett**

*bvdowsett@aol.com 01992 582717*



## Nutbrook 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Nutbrook International Folk Dance Group are hosting a weekend of International Dance to celebrate 40 years of the group's existence. On September 28th and 29th in Bramcote Village, Nottinghamshire. The majority of the events will be held in the Memorial Hall with just the Saturday morning sessions in St Michael's Church Hall. The two halls are next door to each other so the move from one to the other will be fine.

The teacher on this occasion will be Mariette van Gelder from whom we have learnt some lovely dances in the past. There will also be a session for revising and enjoying dances from over the decades (many of which we have kept active in our repertoire). We will have a special buffet followed by an evening dance on the Saturday and more dancing on the Sunday.

There are various places in the area with good accommodation. Whitely Mill Hotel in Stapleford is perhaps the cheapest - room only, no food. There are the usual chains - Best Western near junction 25 of M1, the Risley Hotel & Spa (expensive on Saturday nights) and various B & B places and a Travelodge at Wollaton Park which has been used on previous occasions. This one is now on the same site as a Miller & Carter steak house.

If you fancy a long weekend away there are nearby attractions such as Wollaton Hall and Attenborough Nature Reserve, while further away there are many sights and walking opportunities in Sherwood Forest and the Peak District of Derbyshire.

Our website (with photos of the venues) [www.nutbrookfolkdance.co.uk/events.html](http://www.nutbrookfolkdance.co.uk/events.html) has further information. We at Nutbrook would like to welcome as many folk as possible.

**Gill Morral**



## Loidis Keeps Folk Dancing Alive in Yorkshire!



*Dancing Chilli*

LOIDIS presented an international dance workshop at a Day of Dance Charity fundraiser held at several venues in Saltaire, (near Bradford), recently.

The event was organised to give tasters of a large selection of dance forms, both traditional and modern, for participants to choose from throughout the day.

Our workshop, entitled "A World Tour" attracted 30 participants from all over Yorkshire, and consisted of a 90-minute programme of varied dances taught by Lorna Ramsden and Lynda Shaw to recorded music, interspersed with some live accordion music from me.

The event was successful for both our Group (several of our leaflets disappeared!) and for the Charity, which raised around £5,000 from their efforts. It was good to see a sprinkling of younger dancers enjoying our programme, so that bodes well for the future of our Society, we hope.

**Ian Willson**

Loidis International Folk Dance Group, Leeds

## July & August Events

Just a reminder of events on the international folk dance calendar this summer:

### July 2nd - 7th: Llangollen Eisteddfod

wed 3rd: Children's Folk Dance Groups, Adult Folk Song Choirs.

Fri 5th: Choreographed/Stylised Folk Dance Groups

information: 01978 862003 postcode: LL20 8SW



**July 14th - 22nd: Dance and Cultural tour to Black Sea** area to the north east corner of Turkey close to the border with Georgia, an area little visited by outsiders. Includes visit to Kadirga traditional dance festival. Experience of Turkish dance not necessary. Led by Turgay Onatli and Ahmet Demirbag.



Cost 890 euros includes daily classes, festival visit, accommodation, breakfast and dinner, all cultural experiences and transport in Turkey. Flights not included.

Contact Chrisandra Harris, tel. 0115 955 4962  
[chrisandraharris@gmail.com](mailto:chrisandraharris@gmail.com)  
for a flyer with more information.



### August 10th - 18th: Billingham International Folklore Festival

Each year Billingham presents dance, music, songs, costumes and crafts at performances, parades, exhibitions, and workshops. This year from France, Japan, Argentina, Ukraine, Mexico and Chile.

Email: [info@billinghamfestival.co.uk](mailto:info@billinghamfestival.co.uk)

tel: 01642 553 220

This photo of a Mongolian musician with a Morin Khuur was taken some years back by Arlene Hansell.



### **SIFD May Dance**

This month's dance is on the second Sunday, 12th May and Anne Maddocks has stepped in to be MC with music provided by the SIFD Band.

The SIFD dance is held at Primrose Hill Community Centre, Hopkinson's Place, Fitzroy Road, London NW1 8TN. We start prompt at 6.45pm, finishing in time to clear the hall by 9.30pm (hall available from 6.30pm).

The next dance will be led by Helen Ezra on Sunday 2nd June. See you there,

**Brenda Steventon**

## Ceské Budejovice

Just a little language note with regard to the description of the front page picture in the April issue. Just in case somebody would want to locate the place on the map, it is called České Budejovice, or on German maps Budweis, incidentally, the home of the original Budweiser-Budvar beer.

The form Českých Budejovic is the genitive case, required in Czech after the preposition from (in Czech z or ze).

**Dal Sudwell**



## Ahavat Hadassah

I have just read the items about Ahavat Hadassah in the April newsletter.

I don't know whether this will help, but there is an instructional video (albeit in Hebrew) on YouTube posted by Rokdim, a resource centre for Israeli folk dances:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rJYgabJqQ\\_Y](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rJYgabJqQ_Y)

Also a video with just the dance:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JWErB91aS2Y>

An internet search needs to be for 'ahavat hadasa (r.s.)' and will bring up both (with just one 's' in hadasa).

On the Rokdim website itself ([www.rokdim.co.il](http://www.rokdim.co.il) - click on the US flag at the top of the screen to view the site in English) you can search for specific dances and find links to similar video clips on YouTube or on the site itself. Some of the transliterations of dances names might be different to those commonly used in the UK though.

**Roberto Haddon**



# Steiregger



6 times per dance changing key if required

**"Wilf Horrocks' Collection"**

Firstly, note the spelling *Steiregger*, not *Steiregggar* as on page 14. All I can add is that it is from Upper Austria, or Oberösterreich, a state in the north west of Austria. (The two dots on the o - Umlaut - are vital!)

**Caroline Thomas**

This lovely Austrian couple dance in waltz time has been in my repertoire for well over 50 years; we still dance it regularly at Loidis. It includes the "window" figure which still causes confusion initially for our newer members! We use a 78rpm recording featuring an Austrian zither band.

**Ian Willson**

FAUX PAS-DE-DEUX !



\* Next month the music for **Amelose Kermis** will appear - I'm guessing it's something about kissing a frog.

**Ed.**



## SIFD Committee

- Acting Chairman** Richard Mellish 15 Lancaster Road, Harrow, HA2 7NN *richard@mellish.eu* 0208 863 7807
- Treasurer:** Judith Payling Rosebank, 56 Quickley Lane, Chorleywood, Rickmansworth, Herts. WD3 5AF. *judithcpayling@yahoo.co.uk*
- Secretary:** Dalila Heath 18 Calder Avenue, Brookmans Park, Hatfield. AL9 7AQ tel: 01707 642774 *dalila.heath1@btopenworld.com*

### Other Committee Members:

- Caspar Cronk 8 Langbourne Avenue, London, N6 6AL  
0208 340 4683 *caspar.cronk@blueyonder.co.uk*
- Holly Payling 07784 117599 *hollycp@hotmail.co.uk*
- Brenda Steventon 92 Hamilton Avenue, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 7PT  
020 8397 9649 *brenda.steventon@btinternet.com*
- John Stewart 129 Glebe Road, Thringstone Coalville, Leics.  
LE67 8NU *j2ohn@yahoo.com*





## WHAT'S ON IN MAY

**Fri.3<sup>rd</sup> /Mon.6<sup>th</sup> EASTBOURNE FESTIVAL** [www.eiff.org.uk](http://www.eiff.org.uk)

S.I **Saturday 11th BALKANPLUS** - see page 5

S.I **Sunday 12th SIFD DANCE** - see page 12

**Saturday 11th DANCES FROM GREECE TO THE EAST** with Chrisandra Harris 10:30-4:30 at Unstone Community Centre, Crow Lane, Unstone, Derbys. S18 4AL. Cost £10 (bring own lunch). Booking: [ddu3ainternationaldancing@gmail.com](mailto:ddu3ainternationaldancing@gmail.com)

S.I **Friday 17th FRENCH EVENING - RAINMAKERS IFDG**, live music from Danse Herts musicians, 8-10.45pm at St Michael's Parish Hall, Broadway, Letchworth, SG6 3PQ. £5.00 for the evening. Info from Roger (01438 812766) or Mark (01462 454210)

**Saturday 25th REMEMBERING NAREN** Serbian Community Centre 89-91 Lancaster Road, London W11 1QQ Guests include Dunav and the London Bulgarian Choir. See page 8 Details: Brian Dowsett [bvdowsett@aol.com](mailto:bvdowsett@aol.com) 01992 582717